

21 November 1951

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In connection with the G-2 inquiry on the possible release of NIE-33 to SHAPE, the National Estimates Board and O/NE Staff at its 0900 meeting today disapproved the procedure by which AD/NE would, on authorization from DCI, sanitize, obtain Agency approval for and approve release of NIE's to foreign governments other than that of [REDACTED]. The chief reasons advanced were:

1. As a matter of principle, NIEs, being prepared to serve the purposes of national policy, should not be altered to serve other purposes; any sanitization for SHAPE use would take the heart out of an NIE and make it worthless.
2. The task of sanitizing and reCOORDINATING would require virtually duplication of the work on a given estimate.
3. The possibility that an estimate might ultimately be given SHAPE release would materially reduce the frankness of intelligence expression in it.

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